

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add Claims 20-31 as follows.

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a first region including a neighborhood of an end of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the first ink droplet without ejection of the second ink droplet to the first region;

generating image data, corresponding to a second region including a central portion of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the second ink droplet without ejection of the first ink droplet to the second region;

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet to the first region based on the image data corresponding to the first region; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet to the second region based on the image data corresponding to the second region.

21. (New) A recording method according to Claim 20, wherein the first region includes a region outside of the recording medium.

22. (New) A recording method according to Claim 20, wherein the first region includes a region on the recording medium.

23. (New) A recording method according to Claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a third region between the first region and the second region, for allowing ejection of the first and second ink droplets to the third region; and

causing the recording head to eject the first and second ink droplets to the third region based on the image data corresponding to the third region.

24. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet without ejecting the second ink droplet, regardless of an image to be recorded, to a region including a neighborhood of an end of the recording medium; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet without ejecting the first ink droplet, regardless of an image to be recorded, to a region including a central portion of the recording medium.

25. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet, without ejecting the second ink droplet, to a region including a neighborhood of an end of the recording medium; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet, without ejecting the first ink droplet, to a region including a central portion of the recording medium.

26. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a first region outside of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the first ink droplet without ejection of the second ink droplet to the first region;

generating image data, corresponding to a second region including a central portion of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the second ink droplet without ejection

of the first ink droplet to the second region;

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet to the first region based on the image data corresponding to the first region; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet to the second region based on the image data corresponding to the second region.

27. (New) A recording method according to Claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a third region between the first region and the second region, for allowing ejection of the first and second ink droplets to the third region; and

causing the recording head to eject the first and second ink droplets to the third region based on the image data corresponding to the third region.

28. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet without ejecting the second ink droplet, regardless of an image to be recorded, to a region outside of the recording medium; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet without ejecting the first ink droplet, regardless of an image to be recorded, to a region including a central portion of the recording medium.

29. (New) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet, without ejecting the second ink droplet, to a region outside of the recording medium; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet, without ejecting the first ink droplet, to a region including a central portion of the recording medium.

30. (New) A recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet; and

a control unit for controlling ejection of the ink droplets from said recording head, wherein said control unit controls the ejection of the ink droplets from said recording head so as to (1) specify a first region including a neighborhood of an end of a recording medium and allow the ejection of the first ink droplet without the ejection of the second ink droplet from said recording head to the first region, and (2) specify a second

region including a central portion of the recording medium and allow the ejection of the second ink droplet without the ejection of the first ink droplet from said recording head to the second region.

31. (New) A recording apparatus comprising:

a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet; and

a control unit for controlling ejection of the ink droplets from said recording head, wherein said control unit controls the ejection of the ink droplets from said recording head so as to (1) specify a first region outside of a recording medium and allow the ejection of the first ink droplet without the ejection of the second ink droplet from said recording head to the first region, and (2) specify a second region including a central portion of the recording medium and allow the ejection of the second ink droplet without the ejection of the first ink droplet from said recording head to the second region.